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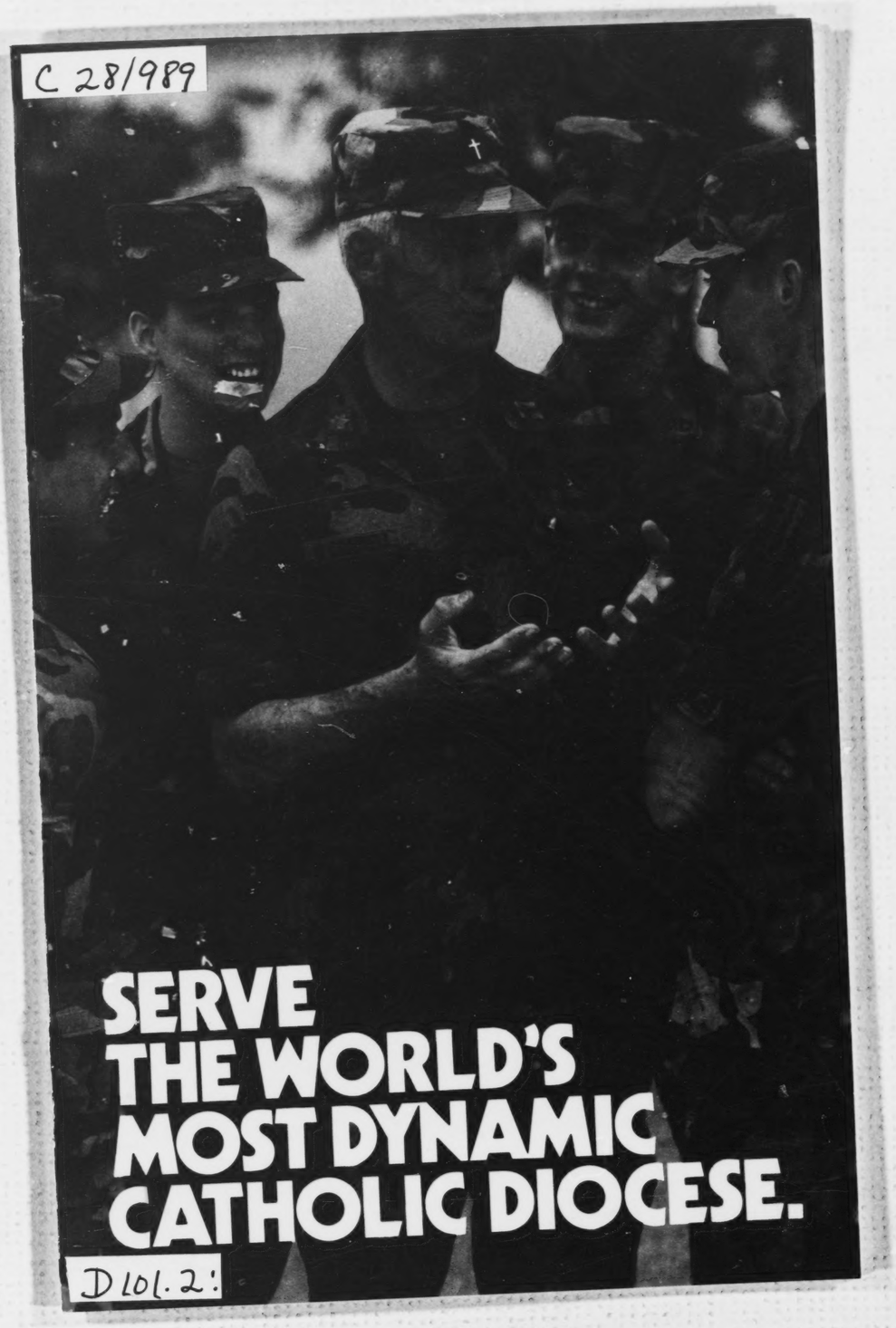

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FOLLOW IN A PROUD TRADITION.

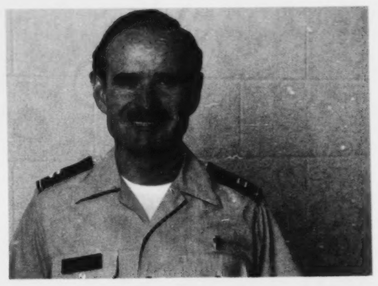
As far back as the Civil War, Army chaplains have been bringing the peace of the sacraments to Catholic soldiers here in the United States and around the world. The role of the chaplain has been immortalized on the printed page, on film, and on the television screen. Throughout World War I, World War II, Korea and Viet Nam, Army Chaplains served where they were needed–some giving their lives, some winning decorations and citations for bravery, including the Medal of Honor.

The men and women of today's Army have as great a need for chaplains as did our soldiers of the past. Spiritual guidance and support are sorely needed by young Catholic soldiers, far from home, at one of the most impressionable times of their lives.

As a Catholic priest, your ministry will be as diversified and challenging as it was for chaplains over 100 years ago. It will touch the lives of men and women who are ready to receive your message of faith and hope. It will extend to their families and will call upon you to be creative and original in your role as builder, counselor, leader–Army priest.

"The Army Chaplain is known for always being with his troops. The soldiers know who I am—I'm not a stranger to them. They see me in the field, going on maneuvers with them. If you want a challenge, this is it."

James Coindreau, Chaplain (Captain)



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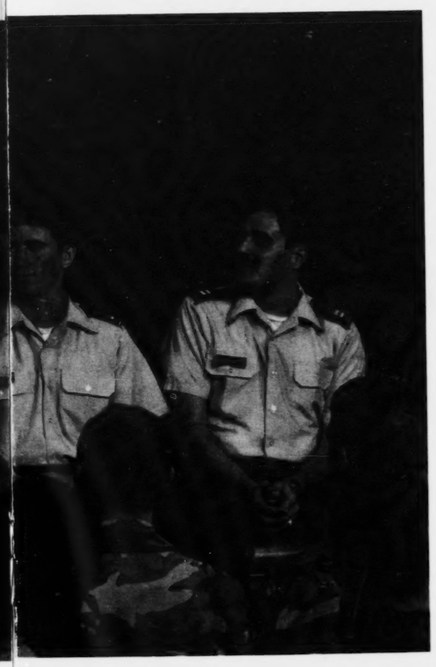

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BE A PRIEST IN THE ARMY.

When your unit is on field maneuvers, you'll be on field maneuvers.

When soldiers choose up sides for a volleyball game, you can be part of the team.

As an Army Chaplain and a soldier, you can go wherever your troops go. And you can involve yourself in their activities as much as you choose. You can be the priest who jumps with his unit from an aircraft, or the priest who goes on maneuvers in the mountains of Germany. In fact, you may well be spending as much as 50 percent of your time training with your unit.

Many Army priests feel that this involvement with the men and women of their unit is one of the most important aspects of being

"The Army Chaplain is part of the soldier's life. In the field and on the installation, you celebrate Mass and the sacraments and counsel the soldiers...they get to know and trust you. We have the ability to move in and out of their work places because that's part of who we are, as chaplains."

James Himmelsbach, Chaplain (Captain)

a chaplain. It allows the Catholic soldier to get to know you on a personal level, in an informal setting. That makes it easier to reveal a hidden emotion. And sharing a soldier's experiences can give you valuable insight in offering spiritual direction and guidance to a troubled young person.

For many soldiers, Army service is their first occasion to be away from home – from family, and from their home parish. Most are young, and are often rethinking or questioning traditional values or beliefs. It's at this critical time in their lives, when their direction for the future may well be determined, that the spiritual guidance of a Catholic priest is greatly needed.

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YOU'LL SERVE MORE THAN SOLDIERS.

Over 60 percent of American soldiers are married, so in addition to servicemen and women, your ministry will also include soldiers' wives, husbands and children.

They, too, may be away from home for the first time, and are subject to the stress and confusion of transition, separation and adjustment to the new experiences of Army life. Many will turn to the Church as a natural link with home, and to you, as their priest, for guidance.

Counseling young couples in both spiritual and temporal matters will be an important part of your

"In addition to taking care of the soldier, we also take care of the family. Whether it's counseling a soldier's spouse or religious education programs for the children, we're very much involved with the whole family."

Edmund Crowley, Chaplain (Captain)

ministry. Equally important will be the challenge of creating a strong sense of community in a parish whose members are constantly changing.

The Army gives you the freedom to conduct an active and innovative ministry. You'll build the youth groups, choirs and religious education classes which are an intrinsic part of Catholic life. You may also initiate new programs which you believe necessary to a dynamic Church, responsive to the needs of its parishioners.

You'll have the resources you'll need and the support of your Commander, with whom you'll enjoy direct communications. In fact, the Commander values your advice on the morals and morale of the unit and will listen if you choose to make suggestions or intervene in a special situation.

As an Army priest, you'll minister to officers and enlisted men and women, their family members, hospital patients, prisoners. You'll officiate at a wedding one day, hear confession in a pine forest the next.

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CONTINUE YOUR EDUCATION IN THE ARMY.

As an Army Chaplain, you are encouraged to pursue your own personal and professional growth and development. The Army provides you with a combination of opportunities for personal and spiritual enrichment, ministerial skills development programs, and traditional educational courses.

Your training begins with a required eleven-week course at the U.S. Army Chaplain Center and School, Ft. Monmouth, N.J. From there, you'll begin your initial assignment at one of the Army's many posts in the continental United States. (Later on, between your fourth and seventh year of service, you will attend a required Advanced Chaplain Training Course.)

During your time in service, there are many elective educational options open to you.

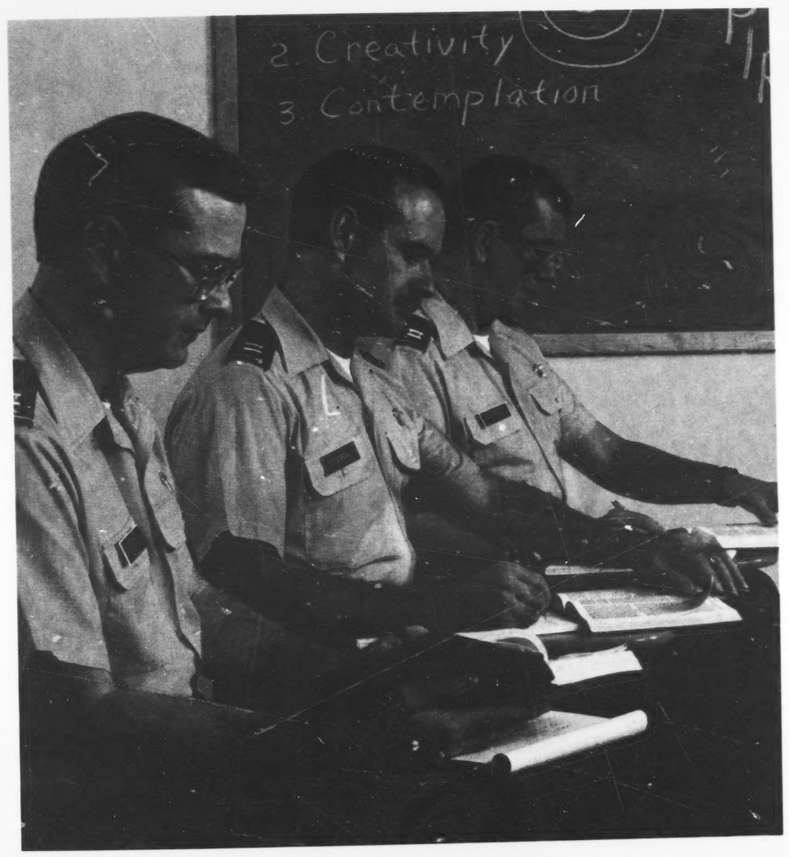
You can participate in periodic workshops which provide valuable training in homiletics, parish development, religious education and counseling. You may also be eligible for short courses, taught in civilian settings, which can help you enrich your skills and overall knowledge.

You might take advantage of the variety of correspondence and residence courses offered by Army Service schools. And you are entitled to 10 extra days each year to attend Catholic functions and retreats of your choice, especially those of your own diocese or religious order. You also accrue 30 days of ordinary leave or vacation a year.

You may also be eligible for accredited clinical pastoral education using hospital, parish or community models. Or you may receive special language training. And there is a wide variety of excellent post-graduate study opportunities available at civilian institutions.

"The Army encourages you to further your education. I even pursued a master's degree in sociology. And I've attended workshops for counseling and clinical pastoral education. I would tell any priest to come into the Army—there's nothing like it."

Michael Ortiz, Chaplain (Colonel)



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JOIN WHILE YOU'RE STILL IN SEMINARY.

"Being an Army Chaplain is a special kind of education you can't get anywhere else. I have my priesthood and several college degrees and feel that the Army is continuing my learning experience. Also, in the Army you are always moving forward and improving, and this means promotions that offer more responsibility."

Robert M. Chukwu, Chaplain, (Captain)

If you are still in seminary or waiting to be ordained, you can prepare for the Army Chaplaincy through the Army Chaplain Candidate Program.

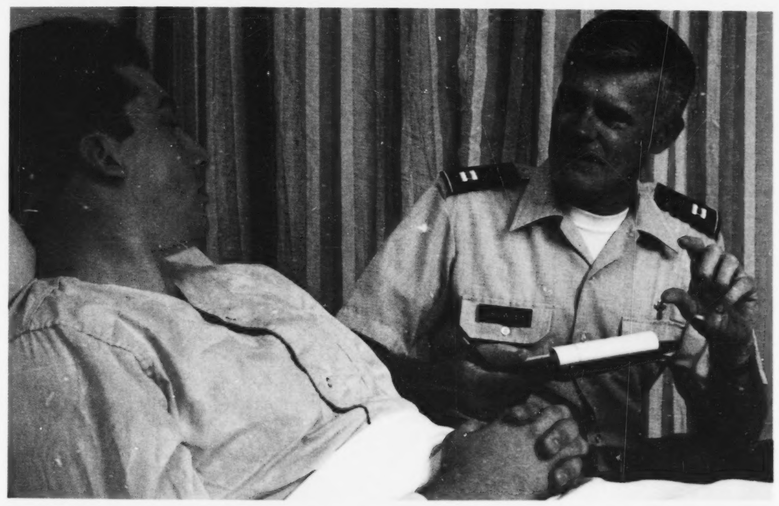
As a Chaplain Candidate, you may choose to be commissioned as an officer in either the Army National Guard or the U.S. Army Reserve.

If you prefer the National Guard, you'll begin by attending the Chaplain Candidate Course which satisfies part of the Chaplain Officer Basic Course requirement. Thereafter, you'll attend two eight-hour meetings each month (usually over the weekend), and two weeks annual training.

If you choose the Army Reserve, you also attend the Chaplain Candidate Course, but there are no regular monthly meetings or unit

"The Chaplain Candidate Program is definitely a good program, whether you decide to join the Army Reserve or the Army National Guard. If you later decide to enter active duty, you'll come in with valuable experience."

James Bluett, Chaplain (Major)



annual training. Instead, there are an additional 45 days of practicum training each year, which it might be possible for you to attend, if you wish.

This valuable, specialized training is designed to accommodate your seminary schedule. The courses include training experience in parish development, religious education, family and community life, pastoral counseling, hospital and confinement facility ministry, and unit field training.

As part of your training, you'll be assigned as a pastoral assistant to an Army Chaplain. In this position, you'll encounter the same range of ministerial experiences you would in a civilian internship, with an added dimension which only the military experience can contribute.

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SERVE WHERE YOU'RE NEEDED MOST.

You have an opportunity to serve the men and women of the world's most dynamic Roman Catholic diocese. Over 2 million Catholics worldwide, in need of priests to share the love of Christ, and to whom you can offer guidance, understanding and the peace of forgiveness.

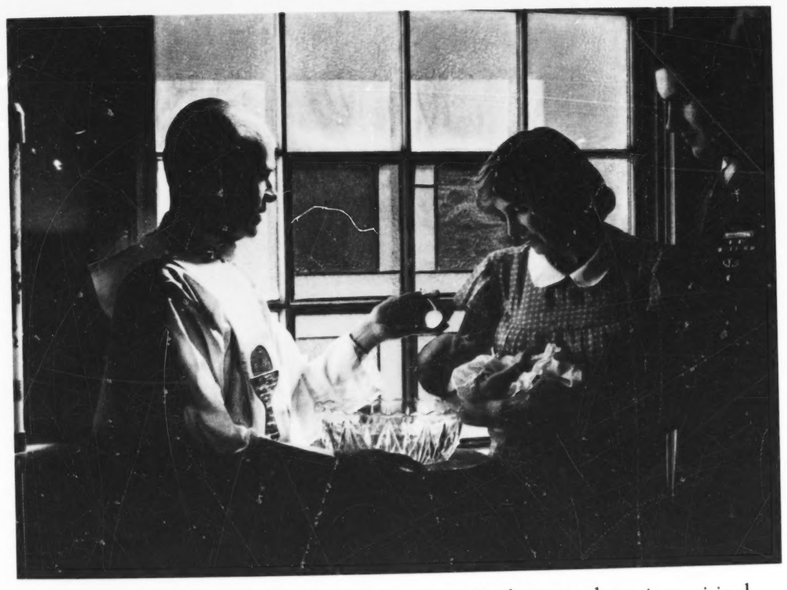
As an Army priest, your ministry will be different from any other. It will include all the aspects of a civilian ministry, but will be broadened by your experience with the Army community.

In the Army, you'll spend a good deal of your time outdoors. Beyond the normal physical training, you'll participate in as much of your unit's physical activity as you choose, enjoying the unique opportunity to share in the daily lives of the men and women you counsel.

You'll study, travel and meet thousands of young Catholics across the country and around the world.

"I'm greatly distressed that the number of priests in the Army continues to decline. I see a wonderful asset in the young men and women in the Army, and these are the people who, unfortunately, are going to lose out. They deserve to have their priest there with them."

David O'Connell, Chaplain (Major)



And you'll have the added satisfaction of knowing that as you serve your God, you are also serving your country.

As you baptize an infant one day, or celebrate the liturgy on a rugged hillside the next, you'll find that your own life, both spiritual and temporal, will be greatly enriched and fulfilled.

Right now there is a critical shortage of Catholic priests in the Army, and there is a need to remedy this shortage as quickly as possible.

If you would like to serve where you're needed most, contact the **Army Chief of Chaplains' Office,** by calling collect **(202) 653-0387.**

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CHAPLAINCY REQUIREMENTS.

1. You must obtain your bishop or religious superior's permission and official ecclesiastical endorsement from the Military Archdiocese certifying that you are:

a. A fully ordained priest,

b. Qualified spiritually, morally, intellectually, and emotionally to serve as a chaplain in the Army,

c. Sensitive to religious pluralism and able to provide for the free exercise of religion by all military personnel, their family members and other authorized personnel.

2. Educationally, you must:

a. Possess a baccalaureate degree of not less than 120 semester hours from a college that is listed in the *Education Directory, Colleges and Universities* or from a school whose credits are accepted by a college listed therein,

b. Have completed three resident years of graduate professional study in theology at a graduate school in the *Directory, ATS Bulletin, Part 4,* or the *Directory of Post-secondary Institutions (U.S. Department of Education),* or at a school whose credits are accepted by a school listed as accredited in these two documents. This is normally validated by possession of a Master of Divinity or equivalent degree or 90 semester hours.

3. Be a citizen of the United States or one who has lawfully entered the United States for permanent residence. (The National Guard accepts only U.S. citizens.)

4. Be able to receive a favorable National Agency check.

5. Be physically qualified.

CHAPLAIN CANDIDATE REQUIREMENTS.

To be eligible for the Chaplain Candidate Program, you must:

1. Be a citizen of the United States or have lawfully entered the United States for permanent residence. (The National Guard accepts only U.S. citizens.)

2. Possess a baccalaureate degree of not less than 120 semester hours from a college or university listed in the *Education Directory, Colleges and Universities.*

3. Be a full-time resident graduate student at a seminary or theological school that is an accredited member of the Association of Theological Schools, or accredited by a regional accrediting agency or association listed in the *Directory of Post-secondary Institutions (U.S. Dept. of Education),* or be a seminary graduate awaiting ordination.

4. Be approved by the Military Archdiocese.

5. Be physically qualified.

6. Be able to receive a favorable National Agency check.

NOTE: Information in this publication is subject to change.

☆ U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1989 - 743-038-15

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